THE

EXPEDIENCY

OF SECURING OUR

AMERICAN COLONIES

BY SETTLING

The Country adjoining the River MISSISIPPI, and the Country upon the OHIO,

CONSIDERED.

Romulus, et Liber Pater, et cum Caſtore Pollux,
Poſt ingentia facta,——————
Dum terras hominumque colunt genus, aſpera bella
Componunt, agros aſſignant, oppida condunt. HOR.

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THE EXPEDIENCY OF SECURING OUR *AMERICAN COLONIES*, &c.

PROVIDENCE having favoured the *Britiſh* arms with ſurpriſing ſucceſs, in the proſecution of the late war, our enemies have been obliged to abate of their uſual haughtineſs, and to accept of reaſonable terms of peace. Not to mention our advantages by this peace in the *Eaſt Indies* and *Africa*, an addition is made to our *American* territories of about 500,000 ſquare miles, which we either did not pretend *right* to before, or had not in *poſſeſſion*. This vaſt acquiſition, above four times larger than all the lands of *Britain* and *Ireland*, is, moſt part of it, very fertile and valuable of itſelf, and all

of it very convenient, along with the other plantations, to *Britain*. For hereby our dominions in that continent are closely united; so precisely determined, that there can be no ambiguity nor dispute hereafter about the limits; have no neighbours from whom danger can be apprehended, but upon one side only; and are of as large extent as *Britain* can be supposed ever to have occasion for, or as may be thought proper for the mother-country to have in any separate continent, and so remote.

Our Rivals, no doubt, will look with regret, and with a wishful eye upon the fine extensive country they have been obliged to cede, and may, in some future period, agreeable to their usual temper and practice, attempt to annoy and disturb us in that quarter, if they shall have, or imagine they have, any probability of retrieving, were it but in part their late great and galing losses.

The object they had in view, according to a plan concerted long before the last war commenced, was no less than the command of the whole continent of *North-America*.

America. With this view, were all their encroachments upon our ſettlements, begun many years ago, but carried on chiefly after ſigning the treaty of *Aix la chapelle*; great numbers of their troops, with large quantities of military ſtores, clandeſtinely ſent to their plantations; the *Indians* debauched and ſpirited up to the moſt ſhocking inſtances of barbarous cruelty againſt our Planters; and their intended chain of forts, from *Canada* to *Louiſiana*, not only begun, but conſiderably advanced.

But Heaven ſupporting our juſt cauſe, and making our arms remarkably victorious both by ſea and land, our inſidious enemies, like the dog with the piece of fleſh in the table, have not only been entirely fruſtrated of this their deſign, but obliged to relinquiſh all their former encroachments, and cede to us all *Canada*, with whatever elſe they poſſeſſed of *North America* to the river *Miſſiſippi*.

Thus have the *French*, to their great mortification, been diſappointed of a deſign they ſeem'd to have had much at heart; by the accompliſhment of which, they would,

in

in all probability, not only have had *Britain* at their mercy within a few years, but been capable to give law to *Europe*.

THEIR paſſion for univerſal empire having been thus fruſtrate, and their deep concerted ſcheme of *American* dominion rendered abortive, they will, no doubt, be filled with revenge, and with a ſtrong deſire to recover the power they have loſt, and the territory they have been forced to cede. Theſe and other conſiderations give us great reaſon to expect, that a Nation, whoſe humour is conſtitutionally ambitious and reſtleſs, and which keeps no treaty longer than they think it their intereſt to break it, will, by their natural ſubtlety, evade the late treaty alſo, whenever a promiſing view of advantage ſhall offer. An attempt of this kind, if compared with many ſimilar inſtances of their conduct, both in former and later times, need give us no ſurpriſe. But the probability of ſuch event, ought to make us uſe all neceſſary precaution for our own ſecurity, eſpecially where it may ſeem moſt in their power to annoy or injure us.

WHETHER

WHETHER the *French* in *Canada* will continue there or not,—time will diſcover. It ſeems moſt probable indeed, that national and natural relation; the ſame Religion, Language, Cuſtoms, and Manners; the engaging views of ſuperior wealth, and a much more agreeable life in *Louiſiana*, a place incomparably more fertile and pleaſant than the other; will occaſion a general Emigration of theſe *Canadians*; to whom, no queſtion, encouraging offers will be made by their old maſters, in order to ſuch a removal.

BUT though, for the reaſons mentioned, the *moſt part* of them ſhould remove within the ſtipulated time, yet it is probable *ſome* of them will continue. The Proteſtant Religion will be a motive to retain thoſe of that perſuaſion. The greater ſecurity of their whole rights and properties, under the mild equitable *Britiſh* Government, than under the arbitrary power of *France*, may poſſibly prevail with others alſo, to continue in their natural Climate and place of Nativity, in the full enjoyment of their eſtates and effects. Such of them

as may chuſe to do ſo, ought to be diſcreetly uſed. For it is to be hoped, that theſe new ſubjects, under the cheriſhing wings of *Britiſh* protection and liberty, will, before many years, by civil uſage and prudent management, entirely incorporate with their fellow-ſubjects, without diſtinction of Nation, Language, or Religion, as was the caſe of the *Dutch* in *New York*. Particular care, however, ſhould be taken, to prevent, by ſtrict penal laws, any of theſe *French* from removing, after the time allowed them by treaty ſhall have elapſed.

BUT though the greater part of them, or even the whole, ſhould continue in *Canada*, there is little reaſon to apprehend danger from that quarter. Our military eſtabliſhment in that country, would render any attempt in them to raiſe diſturbance, folly, and madneſs.

BUT to ſecure our Colonies on the weſt-ſide, ſeems to merit our ſerious attention. There the *French*, our conſtant Rivals and moſt violent Enemies, are our *next neighbours*. Intereſt, and many political motives, cannot

not fail to make *them*, who abound in numbers of people, careful to ſettle *Louiſiana*, the only Colony they now have in that continent, in as ſpeedy and effectual a way as poſſible. In doing this, they certainly will, agreeable to their conſtant practice, erect forts wherever thought neceſſary, eſpecially upon the *Miſſiſippi*, in order to ſecure the Country, and favour their future deſigns. If, when they ſhall have done ſo, the Country upon our ſide of that river ſhall have been neglected, or but thinly peopled,——no Fort above the river *Iberville*,——and perhaps no *Britiſh* Family for ſeveral leagues ſouth of the *Forks* of the *Miſſiſippi*: It is not to be expected, they will confine themſelves within their own limits, and not ſcruple to croſs the *Miſſiſippi* with their uſual encroachments, contrary to the late treaty, more than they did formerly to croſs *St Laurence*, in manifeſt violation of the treaty of *Utrecht*. It is very natural to expect, that, in this caſe, they, in conjunction with the *Indians*, whom

whom we found to our coſt they are very dexterous at corrupting, would by no means let ſlip what they might look upon as an opportunity of encroaching a-new upon our territories, and would renew their former ſcenes of cruelty upon ſuch of our people as might be expoſed to their revenge.

THUS, if the *French* ſhould be beforehand with us (as they ſtill endeavour to be, and often are) and, by putting *Louiſiana* in a reſpectable condition, be capable to play their old game over again, numbers of our innocent Planters would loſe, in a few days, what they might have gained by labour and induſtry in ſeveral years; whole Families of our people either barbarouſly murdered in cold blood, or driven from their habitations; our Colonies thrown into confuſion; and the Nation put to the unavoidable expence and calamities of a new war.

BUT that any ſuch opportunity may, as much as poſſible, be prevented in all time coming, we may be confident, that

His

His Majeſty, whoſe paternal affection for his people is moſt conſpicuous, and who, by the aſſiſtance of an able Miniſtry, hath happily brought about an honourable and advantageous Peace, will, in his royal wiſdom and goodneſs, uſe the moſt proper means for improving it in ſuch a way, that all his Subjects may avail themſelves of it, in the moſt ſpeedy, general, and effectual manner.

In order to the effectual improvment of our Dominions in that Continent, three things ſeem to fall naturally under conſideration. 1. What part of our new acquiſition there, it might be moſt proper to add to our former Colonies, and what parts of it to form into new Colonies, one or more. 2. Settling what parts firſt and chiefly, would contribute moſt to the ſecurity and advantage of the whole. 3. By what ways this might be effected moſt ſpeedily, and to the beſt purpoſe.

Upon theſe Queſtions, a few plain ſimple thoughts are here humbly offered; written, deſignedly, without art or ornament, purely for amuſement, and as they occurred

occurred to the writer, upon reading the articles of the late peace. He afterwards made ſome additions to his notes, upon reading a Hiſtory of *Louiſiana* lately publiſhed, and the accounts of the *Indian* inſurrections. Any Maps he had occaſion to ſee of that Country, are ſmall and incorrect, which is the reaſon why ſo little is ſaid upon the firſt Queſtion, and in ſuch general terms. Hoping the honeſty of his intentions will atone for his deficiencies and inaccuracies, he ſhall reckon his pains, in writing this ſmall Eſſay, very well beſtowed, if it ſhall be a mean to cauſe any perſon of ability, and knowledge in theſe matters, and accquainted with that Country, to favour the Publick with his thoughts upon this Subject, and propoſe a practicable ſcheme in order to ſo uſeful an end.

As to the *firſt* Queſtion:—In order to determine what may be the moſt convenient Partition or Diviſion of that Country into Colonies,—not only a general but a particular knowledge of the Situation, Climate, Soil, Mountains, Rivers, *&c* of

of the ſeveral parts of it is requiſite. And if the Plan of a certain worthy Nobleman lately in the Adminiſtration, relating to this very thing, ſhall be executed, as, conſidering its great uſefulneſs to the publick, there is reaſon to expect it ſhall; this will give proper light into an affair of ſuch importance and national concern.

SOMETHING intended to have been offered upon this Head, being prevented by the diviſion of *Florida* into *Eaſt* and *Weſt*, only two things ſhall be here propoſed.

1. THAT *Virginia*, *Maryland*, and *Penſylvania*, be terminated by a Bound to be fixed thus:—From Lake *Errie*, up the river *Miamis* to the Carrying-place, from thence down the river *Waback* to where it runs into the *Ohio*, and from thence down the *Ohio* to the *Forks* of the *Miſſiſippi*. This would leave the Colonies to the north-eaſt of *Carolina*, pretty equal length from the ſea to the north-weſt; and ſeems a more juſt and proper Limit on that ſide, than either the *Apalachian* mountains or

the *Ohio* in its whole courſe. A Bound from Lake *Errie* to the *Forks*, drawn this or ſome other way, as the nature of the Country ſhall be found moſt conveniently to anſwer, ſeems neceſſary. For, ſuppoſing any of theſe Colonies to extend that way, without any Bound, to the South-Sea, is ridiculous and abſurd, and would entirely prevent ſettling the Country upon the *Ohio*, either ſo ſoon or ſo effectually, as the ſafety, peace and proſperity of that whole Country, abſolutely requires. Therefore,

2. That the Country betwixt the *Miſſiſippi* and the freſh-water Lakes, extending north-weſt from this propoſed bound, be formed into a new Colony, which might be called CHARLOTINA, in honour of Her Majeſty, our preſent moſt excellent Queen.

As to the *ſecond* Queſtion:—From all obſervations we can make, and the accounts we have of that country, we ought principally, and as ſoon as poſſible, to fix Settlements in ſuch particular places of the country adjoining the *Miſſiſippi*, as

as ſhall appear, upon the above mentioned Survey, to be moſt convenient. A Settlement and Fort at *Roſalie* ſeems neceſſary. But in how many, and in what other particular places from thence to the river *Ohio*, muſt be determined upon a thorough knowledge of the country, or as the Coloniſts ſhall find occaſion.

But of all *North-America*, the place of moſt importance to *Britain*, and where a new Colony is moſt requiſite, is at the *Forks of the Miſſiſippi*. The *Expediency*, yea *Neceſſity* of this, both in reſpect of *Security* and *Intereſt*, appears with ſuch force of evidence, even upon looking to a map of that country, that it may ſeem quite ſuperfluous to enumerate or enlarge upon the many reaſons that might be given for it. Moſt of the principal rivers of that extenſive country, navigable for many hundred miles, Eaſt, Weſt, North and South, meet in this place as the centre. Hither the ſtaple Commodities of the inhabitants, whether Coloniſts or *Indians*, and the merchandiſe of the whole country for near a thouſand miles all around,

and

and in ſome places much farther, might be convey'd with more eaſe and convenience, than to any other ſpot of our Dominions in that quarter of the World. Beſides, as the Country for about 8 or 900 miles ſouth, and ſeveral hundred miles north, upon the *Miſſiſippi*, is acknowledged to be the moſt fertile and healthful of any in *North-America*, a town at or nigh the *Forks*, would be the common *Emporium* of the produce and riches of that vaſt Continent: And a Colony extending from that place along the northweſt of the *Ohio*, might be expected remarkably to increaſe and flouriſh.

In ſhort,—a Colony fixed in this place, with ſuitable encouragement, would give us the entire command of that Continent; ſecure to us the trade with the *Indians*: be an effectual Barrier for the defence, ſecurity and quiet of all our Colonies; check the natives; prevent the *French* from having acceſs to and corrupting them; and render any attempt in after-times, from either or both of them, vain and ineffectual.

FATHER

FATHER *Heunepin*, a *French* Jeſuite, who, about 80 years ago, traverſed and accurately ſurvey'd this Country, expreſly ſays, that whatever nation ſhould ſecure the country on the *Ohio*, by a chain of Fort from the Lakes to the *Miſſiſippi*, might command all *North-America*. Every body knows, of how great importance to their uſurping ſcheme, his countrymen look'd upon this hint; what extraordinary pains and diligence they were at for a great many years, to poſſeſs and ſecure this very country; and how much labour, blood and treaſure it coſt this Nation, to defeat and overturn the ſmall part of their plan they had executed. So very much were they taken with this their favourite ſcheme, as conducive to ſome valuable prize their ambition had fixed upon, that they expended ſeveral millions of treaſure, and the lives of many thouſands of their people, in the courſe of a ſeven years war, to accompliſh it. This they neither would nor did fall from, nor conſent to relinquiſh their encroachments,

till reduced to the loweſt ſtate of diſtreſs —beaten in all quarters of the world,—— their Fleets deſtroyed,——their trade and credit ſunk; they were upon the very brink of national ruin, and incapable any longer to avoid impending deſtruction.

WHAT, therefore, our vigilant enterpriſing Rivals (*fas eſt et ab hoſte doceri*) found a very promiſing means for obtaining ſo great a prize, and laboured with aſſiduity and perſeverance to make good, notwithſtanding the oppoſition they might rationally expect from us, of whoſe juſt Rights the execution of this their darling plan was a moſt manifeſt Invaſion; let not us neglect nor delay to execute, while we can do it without oppoſition; and thereby ſecure to ourſelves the full and undiſturbed poſſeſſion of our own indiſputable property, that is of ſo great importance and value: Which if we had done about 12 or 14 years ago, when the deſigns of our Enemies were by that time pretty evident, the late bloody war, in all probability, might have been prevented,

and

and our national debt between forty and fifty millions Sterling leſs than it now is.

It would be tedious to mention all the advantages, obvious to every one, that would accrue to us, and to our whole *American* Dominions, from the propoſed ſettlements. Beſides theſe already hinted, others will appear from comparing the country in general with our preſent Colonies, and obſerving its vaſt ſuperiority in extent, properties and productions.

A Colony is profitable, according as its land is ſo good, that, by a part of the labour of the inhabitants beſtowed on its cultivation, it yields the neceſſaries of life ſufficient for their ſuſtenance; and by the reſt of their labour, produces ſtaple commodities in ſuch quantity and of ſuch value, as bring from the Mother-country, in the way of commerce and traffick, all manufactures neceſſary for the proper accomodation of the Coloniſts, and for the gradual and more extenſive improvement of the Colony, as the number of people increaſes.

So that *Fruitfulneſs of Land* is the principal property of a Colony, and that wherein its

itsuſefulneſs chiefly conſiſts: Becauſe (*Mines* are ſuppoſed to be out of the queſtion here) in proportion to the quantity of the neceſſaries of life, with the number and value of ſtaple commodities that it produces, will be the number of people encouraged to go to it; the cheapneſs of labour; the ſmall ſhare of it needful for the maintenance of the inhabitants; and, conſequently, the more of it beſtowed on ſtaple commodities.

If, beſides fertility of ſoil, it hath alſo a *healthful Climate* and *extenſive Bounds*,—— of ſo much greater value muſt it be accounted, and merits proportionably greater care and encouragement from the Mother-country. A Colony having theſe properties, if duly ſupported in its infant ſtate, muſt ſoon flouriſh and become ſtrong; and will, like a dutiful child, return manifold the favours of the kindly parent, to the great convenience and advantage of both.

But a Colony, whoſe inhabitants are obliged, from the barrenneſs of the country, the

the length and coldneſs of the winters, or whatever other cauſe, to beſtow all or moſt of their labour on having the neceſſaries of life, can ſcarcely be ſuppoſed to avail the mother-country: Becauſe the people, for their own ſubſiſtence, muſt of neceſſity apply themſelves to Farming and Manufactures, and thereby, inſtead of benefiting, muſt interfere with her in many branches of trade.

WITHOUT depreciating our former Colonies, or detracting in the leaſt from their real worth, it muſt, however, be acknowledged, that moſt of them are rather of the laſt, than of the firſt mentioned kind: that, excepting the Furs which we purchaſe from the natives, all our northern Colonies produce very little ſtaple, and but of ſmall value for *Britain*, and that all of them, except ſome lands on the ſouth parts of *Carolina*, ſcarcely produce any but *Tobacco*. The lands of the very beſt of them, for ſeveral miles from the ſea, are low, marſhy, hot, and therefore unhealthy; and their

ſoil

ſoil, from the Sea to the *Apalachian* mountains, is ſhallow, light, and ſoon worn out with culture. Beyond theſe mountains to the *Obio*, particularly upon the back of our moſt ſoutherly Colonies, the lands are ſaid to be of a more deep, ſtrong and fertile ſoil: But theſe have never yet been occupied by our people, nor could be, on account of the encroachments of the *French*, and the cruelty exerciſed by them and the natives in their intereſt, againſt our Planters, for a good many years paſt.

So that, however valuable theſe our Colonies are (and that they are of great value, is certain) yet they may be made infinitely more ſo to *Britain* as a trading nation, conjoined with, and by a proper improvement of our new accquiſition. For, if the Settlements here propoſed were made, our old Colonies would ſee it their intereſt, to extend their Plantations, each within their reſpective limits, to the *Miſſiſippi* and *Obio*, as far as the *Forks*. This they would be encouraged to do, from the motives of gain, ſafety, undiſturbed poſſeſſion, the proſpect of improving

improving their lands at pleaſure and to the beſt purpoſes, with the convenience of Navigation, whether for Export or Import, by the rivers that run from the *Apalachian* mountains into the *Ohio*, by the *Ohio* itſelf, and the *Miſſiſippi*. Thus the old Colonies and the new one propoſed, might be joined before many years, to their unſpeakable mutual help and intereſt.

BESIDES this and other advantages, ariſing from its *contiguity* to our other Colonies, this extenſive pleaſant country, of which very little hitherto hath ever been opened, could not be expected to wear out by culture; and is of ſo deep and rich a ſoil, that, upon proper improvement, it would yield, not only all things neceſſary for the maintenance of the inhabitants, tho' ſeveral millions in number, but produce ſtaple commodities for the Mother-country, in far greater plenty and variety, and of far more value, than all of that Continent we ever were poſſeſſed of before.

THE

THE ſouth part of it, for about 30 or 40 miles from the Sea-ſhore, tho' by far the moſt barren of all the country, is ſtored with plenty of the fineſt Pines, Cedar, Cypreſs, ever-green Oaks, *&c.* of which large navies might be built at ſmall expence. Care and pains in draining the ſwamps and clearing the ground in that low part of the country, as the *French* do in *New-Orleans*, would render it far more healthy, and fit to produce immenſe quantities of Rice, and other valuable productions.

FROM thence to the *Forks*, about 8 or 900 miles, the country, we are told, is healthful, and the ſoil exceeding fertile, the lands being of a rich black mould, three feet deep in the hills, and much deeper in the bottoms, with a ſtrong clayey foundation; producing all kinds of proviſions and eſculent plants, with little or no care or labour, and almoſt without culture. The lands are dry, hilly, and in ſome parts mountainous, which greatly refreſhes and cools the air over the whole country, and renders

renders the climate extremely healthful. This account we have from a hiſtory of that country lately publiſhed, written by a *Frenchman*, who reſided a good many years there. He ſays further,—'The air is perfectly good there; the blood is pure; the people are healthy; ſubject to few diſeaſes in the vigour of life, and without decrepitude in old age; which they carry to a farther length than in *France*. People live to a long and agreeable old age in *Louiſiana*, if they are but ſober and temperate." When the *French*, who have been in poſſeſſion of this country upwards of half a century, own and publiſh this,—we may believe the acknowledgment: And the rather, as ſome of our own people, who had been ſent by the Government of *Virginia* about 20 years ago, after going down the *Ohio* and *Miſſiſippi* to *New Orleans*, reported, 'that they ſaw more good land on the *Miſſiſippi*, than they judged to be in all the *Engliſh* Colonies ſo far as they were inhabited.' Thus we have ſufficient evidence, that this is a fertile,

healthy fine country in general, and what claims our higheſt attention to occupy and ſecure.

But ſtill,———that part of the Country upon the *Miſſiſippi*, from the *Ohio* to the *Illinois* river, ſeems to be the moſt fertile, healthful, inviting and encouraging of all, and the moſt neceſſary place to us for a Colony, of any in *North-America*; being as it were intended by nature, and adapted by its convenient ſituation in the very heart and centre of the country, to be the key of all the inland parts, and to command the whole of that vaſt continent. So very pleaſant and delightful did the country upon the north-weſt of the *Ohio* appear to the *French*, that they called this the Fair River. Such is the mildneſs of the air, conſequently healthfulneſs of that climate, ſuch the fruitfulneſs of the many pleaſant extenſive vallies interſperſed thro'-out the whole country, among the numerous rivers whereby it is watered; in ſhort ſo agreeable and charming a country is this, ſo abounding in both the neceſſaries and

pleaſures

pleaſures of life, that the *French* uſually called it, a Terreſtrial Paradiſe. The better ſort of their people, of both ſexes, from *Canada* and other parts, chuſed to reſide and end their days *here*, as the moſt pleaſant deſirable place they had in that Continent. *Here* they formed a ſettlement and built ſome forts, to check our ſouthern Colonies, and ſecure their own intereſt in that important place, which they acknowledge, as they juſtly may, is one of the moſt conſiderable poſts in all *Louiſiana*. They acknowledge alſo,——that this country is very good and fertile: That of the whole Colony (*viz.* of *Louiſiana*, of which they reckoned this a part) this is the country in which, with the greateſt eaſe, they grow Wheat, Rye, and other like grain: that turning the earth in the ſlighteſt manner, is ſufficient culture to make it produce as much as can be reaſonably deſired; that Tobacco thrives there: that all plants tranſported thither from *France*, ſucceed well; as do alſo the fruits: That there are Mines of Silver, Lead, and Iron there: And that in the country north of the *Illi-*

nois, Mines are ſaid to be in great numbers, and very rich. What place more encouraging for a new Colony!

It would make up a volume, to mention, at any tolerable length, the productions, already known of this whole Country, with their uſes and advantages. And it is more than probable, there are many, eſpecially of the *vegetable* kind, that have not yet fallen under the notice of *Europeans*. It would be both tedious and ſuperfluous to enumerate the many ſorts of Grain, Fruits, Roots, Plants, Beaſts and Fowl, wild and tame, Fiſhes, *&c.* which are there in the greateſt variety and abundance.

As to Productions for *Commerce*:— Hemp, Flax, Silk, Cotton, Cochineal, Oil, Raiſins, Currants, Almonds, Oranges, Citrons, Walnuts, Cheſnuts, Prunes, Potaſh, Indigo, Rice, Copper, Iron, Pitch, Tar, Roſin, Saltpetre, Sweet-gum, Wax, Saſafras, Salſaparilla, *&c.* beſides innumerable materials for Medicine and Dyeing, might all be had from thence, and in great plenty.

ty. In ſhort, of the numerous articles of Commerce from this large, fruitful Country, *theſe* which by nature *are*, with *theſe* that, if tranſported thither from other places of ſimilar Climate and Soil, by artificial culture *might be* produced,—may juſtly be ſuppoſed of ſuch variety, quantity and value, as, when purchaſed with our manufactures, would enable us to keep in our pockets ſome millions of our Treaſure, which, for theſe very Commodities, we yearly give out to other Nations; beſides immenſe profits that we might draw from foreign parts, for ſuch of theſe Commodities as would exceed our home Conſumption. If, for inſtance, we pay, as it is acknowledged we do, near two millions Sterling yearly to other Nations, for theſe two neceſſary articles of *Hemp* and *Flax*, which may be raiſed in this Country, and that in the greateſt plenty; what vaſt profits would ariſe from the whole of the above Liſt? And, beſides our own ſavings and actual profits, what Reſources of treaſure, which hitherto we have furniſhed

our Enemies with, would thereby be cut off? The writer of the above mentioned Hiſtory ſays of this Country,—"That "whatever way one walks from the Sea-"coaſt for 500 leagues northwards, he "cannot proceed 100 ſteps without meet-"ing with a Vine." Is there not good reaſon, then, to expect, that *Wine*, and the other produces of the *Grape*, which we purchaſe from Enemies with great ſums of money, might, by proper cultivation and care, be had from thence; perhaps ſufficient, before many years, to anſwer the moſt, if not the whole, of our home conſumpt?

FROM what hath been obſerved of this Country, comparatively with our Colonies ſo far yet ſettled, it plainly appears to have very much the preference in extent, fruitfulneſs, as alſo in quantity, variety, and value of Productions, and in every other reſpect, except nearneſs to the Sea. But making the Settlements here propoſed, would entirely remove this objection, if any ſhould think it one: Be-

cauſe,

cauſe, hereby would be ſecured to us, the navigation of the Rivers in theſe inland parts of the Country, particularly the *Ohio* and *Miſſiſippi*. This is of the utmoſt importance to us, and what the very Being of our *American* Colonies depends upon; and which, if theſe Settlements ſhall be neglected a few years, the *French* will leave no means unattempted to wreſt from us. In which event, all the Lands to the north-weſt of the *Apalachian* mountains would be uſeleſs to *Britain*, and might be given up at once; and the reſt alſo would fall of courſe, unleſs the perfidious Invaders ſhould again be driven out, at the expence of ſeveral millions of our Treaſure, and the Blood of many of our innocent Countrymen.

BESIDES what hath been ſaid from the topic of *ſecuring* againſt *French encroachments*, another conſideration ſeems equally to claim our attention. Of the two moſt uſual means of aggrandizing a Nation, *Conqueſt* and *Trade*, the *French* have of late, to the utmoſt of their might, attempted,

by

by the *firſt*, to raiſe themſelves and humble us: But (thank God) have come off entirely diſappointed. Their boundleſs Ambition, which would be ſatisfied with no leſs than the whole of *North-America*, hath tended *doubly* to their own loſs. For, in the *firſt* place,—while, intoxicated with the views of Conqueſt and Territory, they diſpoſed of what people they had in that Continent, ſparſely, throughout theſe extenſive Countries which they called *Louiſiana* and *Canada*, and in the inland parts upon the back of our Colonies, in order to facilitate their encroaching Deſigns; they neglected the *Improvement* of the whole, at leaſt of the very beſt Lands in all their Colonies. Again, in the courſe of the War, which their continued inſufferable Uſurpations and repeated Inſults had rendered unavoidable, ſo great were their Loſſes notwithſtanding their formidable confederacy with the mightieſt Powers of *Europe*,——and ſuch our ſucceſs, by the remarkable aſſiſtance of the God of Armies, maintaining the juſtice of our Cauſe; that

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theſe boaſting Invaders, beſides *renouncing all their Uſurpations*, were obliged *to cede* to us *immenſe territory*, which, otherwiſe, they might have poſſeſſed and improved at their pleaſure.

If diſappointment of their hopes with reſpect to *American* Empire, and their late great loſs of Men, Ships and Territory, ſhall cure them for ſome years of their uſual itch of *war*, and make them diſcontinue their old uſurping practice; *a Superiority in Trade* will be the next object of their incurable ambition, and what they will ſtrain every nerve to make good.

Upon comparing circumſtances, ours and theirs, in that Continent, there ſeems to be more reaſon to apprehend their Rivalſhip in *this*, for ſome years at leaſt, than in *war*. Beſides the Iſland and Fort of *New-Orleans*, they are yet poſſeſſed of vaſt territory on the weſt of the *Miſſiſippi*; the South part of which, from that river to mountains of *New-Mexico* weſtward, and from the Sea to about ſix Degrees northward, we are told, is one entire level champaign

champaign Country, as large as both *France* and *Spain* together; exceeding fruitful; and alone ſufficient to ſupply the World with the productions of *North America*; being fertile in every thing, both in Land and Metals; and watered by ſeveral large navigable rivers that ſpread over the whole country. Upon ſuppoſition, then, of the *Canadians* and other *French* ſubjects in that Continent, their ſettling in the moſt convenient parts of that fine extenſive Country, it may be expected they will, by cultivating it with care and diligence, endeavour to obtain by the *Improvement of Trade*, that advantage and ſuperiority, which they could not by their *Martial Efforts*.

FROM the fruitfulneſs of theſe freſh virgin lands, and two or three months more of ſummer ſeaſon in *Louiſiana* than in our old Colonies, which, ſo far as hitherto occupied, are now much worn out, they can in one year make two or three crops of *Tobacco*, for inſtance, upon the ſame ground, as eaſily as we can make one, and in far greater plenty too, according to the ſuperior

rior fertility of ſoil. And if the *Tobacco* they uſed to make in this country, is of ſuch value as they give out, they may by the improvement that country is capable of, as effectually outdo us, after ſome years, in that article, the only one we have hitherto kept entire to ourſelves, as they have already done in that of the *Sugar*.

But while we have ten or twelve times, if not more, the number of people that they yet have, in that Continent, and a country much of the ſame latitude and nature with theirs; it is in our *power*, and ſhould be our *endeavour*, both to *ſecure* this valuable acquiſition againſt *Encroachments*; and, by a proper timeous improvement of it, to *prevent* our Rivals, as much as we can, of ſuperior *commercial advantages*: Both which neceſſary ends, it is preſumed, the propoſed ſettlements would anſwer.

In this argument from *Trade*, it is ſuppoſed that the *French* will be pacific, and behave ſtrictly conform to treaty. But their ſpeedy endeavours to reſtore their Marine; the freedoms they are ſaid to be already uſing

ſing at *Newfoundland*; the preſent inſurrection of the *Indians* (of which afterwards) no queſtion excited by *French* Jeſuits and Prieſts; ſeem to indicate, that they are rather diſpoſed to continue their former turbulent practices, than to maintain peace and good neighbourhood. This makes it ſtill more neceſſary for us, to be upon our guard.

We are told in the public News-Papers, 20th July laſt, 'that according to advices 'from *France*, they were doing all in their 'power to eſtabliſh their Colonies in *Ame-* 'rica upon a firm foundation, and expected '60 or 70,000 Inhabitants from *Canada* to 'ſettle at *New-Orleans* and on the weſt ſide 'of the *Miſſiſippi*.' No queſtion *this* is their deſign, and what they will ſpare no pains to effectuate. If, for the reaſons before hinted, the *Canadians*, or greater part of them, ſhall go thither, as is moſt likely, they will be of more uſe, both for themſelves and their Mother-country (in point of national profit, tho' perhaps not ſo well anſwering the late project of Uſurpation

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and Conqueſt) in *Louiſiana*, than in the cold regions of *Canada*. But as the *French* will ſee to avail themſelves the beſt way they can of this laſt return they are to expect from that place, they will take care to diſpoſe of them in ſuch a manner, and in ſuch places, as ſhall contribute moſt to their future Deſigns: And what theſe ſhall be,—time will diſcover.

Suspicions and ſuppoſitions are indeed no arguments; but, ſo far as probable, deſerve notice. And is it not natural to think, a conſiderable number of theſe *Canadians*, and other *French* from the eaſt-ſide of the *Miſſiſippi*, with many others from *France*, will ſettle on that river, oppoſite to the country betwixt the *Ohio* and *Illinois?* The famous Silver-mines of *Marameg*; the Lead-mines and Salt-pits betwixt that place and the *Forks*; the acknowledged Fruitfulneſs and Worth of that part of their country, *&c.* may be juſtly reckoned ſuch powerful motives (really, or in pretence, the ſame thing to us) that one can ſcarce help thinking, they will not let

that place be long unoccupied. But if we take this motive alſo, the ſtrongeſt of all, into conſideration, *viz.* a Deſign,—tho', according to their uſual way, abſolutely diſowned till diſcovered by an attempt to execute,—of ſeizing the country on the *Obio*, the grand object of their ambitious views, and cauſe of the late war; this makes the matter ſtill more ſerious and intereſting to us. For is it not rational to expect, they would carefully erect Forts; ſecure the country to the utmoſt of their power; cultivate a conſtant trade and correſpondence with, and, when ſtrong, ſpirit up againſt us, the numerous nation of the *Illinois* and other *Indian* tribes, their old acquaintance; whoſe firm alliance and friendſhip ever ſince they knew theſe parts, they acknowledge and boaſt of? In this event, and if we ſhall be ſo careleſs (*infatuated* would be a more proper term) as to neglect ſettling this important place: Let any one who reflects on the uſual behaviour of that nation, and their continued courſe of encroachments in that part of the world

world for about thirty years paſt, figure to himſelf,—what we might expect from ſuch reſtleſs, perfidious, neighbours, whom no treaty ever bound, when their intereſt and convenience came in competition: Eſpecially as ſuch neglect on our part, would encourage them, by the moſt probable views of ſucceſs and impunity, again to graſp at the valuable and long coveted prize of *North America*.

Once more upon this head:— If we will advert to theſe two facts mentioned in the News-papers 10th Oct. That *Frenchmen* are ſeen among the warring parties of the *Indians*; and that large quantities of various ſorts of goods of *French* manufacture, are conveyed from *France*, in veſſels ſent upon pretence of the fiſhery, to be diſtributed among the *Indians* and natives in the Gulph of *St. Lawrence* and other parts of that coaſt; it appears pretty evident, whence theſe our preſent diſturbances by the natives, have originally proceeded, and by whoſe influence they are maintained.

To raiſe up the *Indians* againſt us, and in theſe very parts, is one of the beſt cards they can now play, and very artfully contrived to ſerve a double end, both very much favouring the Deſign they ſeem already to have in view. For, ſuch a war, they well know, muſt draw our attention and forces to thoſe more barren northerly regions, and make us neglect the far more fertile and valuable countries upon the *Miſſiſippi* and *Ohio*; while, in the mean time, alluring by great encouragements, their late ſubjects from *Canada* and other parts, they are loſing no time to ſettle *New Orleans*, and *Louiſiana* to the beſt advantage. Which done, —their numbers increaſed,—their country ſecured,—and the *Indians* on that ſide alſo wheedled over and depraved by the contagion of their pernicious influence; as much miſchief may be expected from them in ſome future period, and that perhaps not remote, as at any time before; if not timeouſly, and by ſuitable meaſures on our part, prevented.

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THUS far of the expediency, advantage, and neceſſity of ſettling the country upon the *Miſſiſippi*, and particularly of planting a new Colony at the *Forks*.

As to the *third* queſtion:—No doubt there is difficulty as to the numbers of people requiſite for the propoſed Settlements. But the difficulty, it is hoped, is not inſurmountable. That conſiderable numbers for beginning a new Settlement, might be had from ſeveral parts of the *Britiſh* Dominions, where they are not ſo uſefully employed,—is evident: And that encouraging terms, with other views of gain, would engage many to go accordingly,—is equally certain. Were theſe ſettlements once begun in earneſt, their numbers, tho' fewer at firſt than what might be wiſhed, would ſoon increaſe. The proſpect of gain in a country ſo far preferable in every reſpect, would engage ſpare hands from the northern Colonies, to ſettle either at the *Forks*, or in other places betwixt that and the Sea, where found moſt neceſſary and convenient.

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THE harbours from *Georgia* to *New Orleans*, particularly at *St. Auguſtin* and *Penſacola*; the towns already built, and the convenience of carrying on trade along that whole coaſt; the improvements and cultivation of lands already made in theſe parts by the *French* and *Spaniards*; will contribute much to the ſpeedy ſettlement and peopling of *Eaſt* and *Weſt Florida*; ſtill more ſo, if a conſiderable number of the old inhabitants ſhall continue in their habitations.—The Colonies of *Georgia* and the *Carolinas*, from the motives of intereſt and ſafety, will, no doubt, take care to extend their ſettlements, within their reſpective bounds, towards the *Miſſiſippi*. All this may be done with no charge to the mother-country.

TOWARDS ſettling the new Colony propoſed, which ſeems to be more material, and therefore to claim greater notice; it were to be wiſhed, the Government would give good encouragement. For, in proportion to this, undeniably, would be the number of adventurers at firſt; their fu-

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ture increaſe of people, whether by incomers, or in the uſual way of population; and, conſequently, their proſperity, wealth, uſefulneſs, *&c.* What encouragement in particular ſhould be given,—theſe who are proper judges in ſuch matters, would determine, according to the importance and public utility of the deſign. Beſides, ſome preſent advance, as is uſual, for helping the new planters to a ſtock of cattle, furniture, utenſils, and other neceſſaries,— a favourable eaſy tenure of lands; a ſet of well contrived good rules with reſpect to their conſtitution, polity, œconomy and order; wiſe prudent Governors, and a ſufficient number of able approven Clergymen and teachers, *&c.* would be of the utmoſt conſequence to their future welfare and proſperity.

But more particularly:—Of our Soldiers and Sailors lately diſmiſſed without proviſion or encouraging proſpect of buſineſs, many, 'tis to be feared, will rather become beggars, looſe idle vagrants, or even worſe, than re-apply themſelves to labour, after ſo

ſo many years diſuetude. Immediately upon the concluſion of the peace, ſcarce any one thing ſeemed to have a preferable claim to the attention of the Government, than theſe two;——providing for thoſe brave fellows by whoſe intrepidity and valour ſo much Glory and Conqueſt had been obtained to the Nation;——and ſettling ſome of the moſt important parts of the fine Country acquir'd. It is indeed hard to ſay, in which of theſe two the neglect was moſt ſurpriſing. The inſeparable connection, and numerous advantages of both, are obvious. Juſtice, Gratitude, and Humanity, required the one; Intereſt and Neceſſity, the other. But as it is not yet too late, numbers of theſe our Countrymen, who ſo highly merit the thanks of the Nation, might be ſent thither, and ſupplied with lands, upon the condition of military ſervice when wanted, as a reward of their extraordinary bravery and the duty they faithfully did their King and Country during the late war. *Theſe* would be moſt ſuitable for a new Colony, and *this* as advantageous

vantageous a diſpoſal of them, both for themſelves and the publick, as any other yet propoſed.

MEN of the ſeveral neceſſary Crafts alſo, ſuch as Maſons, Carpenters, Joiners, Bricklayers, *&c.* would be requiſite: And according to what hiſtory we have of that Country, a company of Miners, at leaſt after a few years, might turn out to very good account.

AGAIN,——It is undeniable in fact, whatever may be the cauſe or cauſes, that there are in many parts of *Britain* and *Ireland*, great numbers of Houſholders, ſuch as reduced Farmers, Cottagers, and others, in very low circumſtances; who, by all their labour and induſtry, can ſcarcely ſcrape together a ſorry ſubſiſtence for themſelves and needy families. Theſe, bred up to no mechanical employment, and having no proſpect at home but continued poverty, would, many of them, it is to be ſuppoſed, embrace with chearfulneſs an opportunity of going to ſettle in a Country, where their

their labour would yield them plenty and affluence.

Laſtly,——It may be ſuppoſed, there are many throughout *Britain* and *Ireland* pining in Jails, unable to do good to themſelves or others, while in that ſorry ſituation. Beſides the publick-good, would it not be an act of humanity, to ſend thither all that are confined for Debt, whoſe characters are otherways fair and unblemiſhed! would the act of Royal mercy, ſoon expected, be one whit tarniſhed, by annexing to the liberation of ſuch, a condition of being removed from a Country where they could expect nothing but ſtraitened circumſtances and diſregard, to where they might have, not only a comfortable Subſiſtence, but probably of wealth and opulence in a few years?

To ſtrengthen their hands, and as a mutual ſecurity and help both to this and the adjacent Settlements, the Colonies of *Virginia* and *Penſylvania*, but chiefly the firſt, might, upon recommendation from the Government, and no doubt, would,

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upon the proſpect of Intereſt, ſend people, according to their own plan and deſign about 20 years ago, to ſettle in the Lands adjoining the South-eaſt of the *Ohio*, and other parts of the Bound above-propoſed; who might extend their Plantations South-eaſt within their reſpective Limits, while the new Colony extended theirs along the *Ohio* and *Miſſiſippi*, as their people ſhould increaſe.

As a Colony in this important place would be of incomparably more advantage to the Mother-country, as well as to the other Colonies, than *Nova Scotia*, to ſettle which, the Nation, for ſome years paſt, hath been at conſiderable charges; to neglect ſuch a valuable purpoſe, therefore, on account of what expences might be neceſſary to effectuate it, would be an imprudent, ill-judged parſimony. A competent ſum beſtowed upon it, and properly applied, under the direction of Gentlemen of probity, appointed for that purpoſe, like the ſeed ſown on good ground, would ſoon produce an hundred-fold.

For the ſame reaſon, we ſhould not grudge ſending thither a few thouſands of people, of the ſorts before named. The extent and worth of this our new acquiſition; the danger that we have reaſon to apprehend from reſtleſs inſidious Neighbours, in caſe of neglecting it; with the expediency and advantage of ſecuring that Country, particularly, where the new Colony is propoſed, make this neceſſary; and in all appearance but for *once*. For, ſuch a number being fixed there as encouraging terms would procure, beſides numbers of ſtrangers that ſo fine a Country could not fail yearly to allure thither, having moſt fertile ground to occupy at pleaſure, and the neceſſaries of life in great abundance, and produced by little labour; would marry in their early years: Whereby, together with the healthfulneſs of the Climate, they could not, humanly ſpeaking, but increaſe and multiply as much as any Colony could be expected. And it is obſerved, that in our *American* Colonies the number of Inhabitants is doubled in 25 years

years, excluſive of Incomers. According to which calculation, *Britain*, one Century hence, would have ſixteen times the number of Subjects in *America* that are there at preſent, beſides all Strangers, with their proportional increaſe.

Some aſſiſtance therefore of *people* and *money* being beſtowed upon this one, urgent, uſeful and neceſſary deſign, which can neither be neglected nor delayed with ſafety, it is not likely there would be any demand of this nature afterwards. For, theſe places being thus ſecured, our Colonies, enjoying peace and quiet, would ſo proſper and multiply, that they would be able to repel any force or injury attempted by whatever aſſailants on that Continent, without putting the Mother-country to the great trouble and charges of ſending thither Armies, Artillery, *&c.* as in the laſt War. Moreover, in proportion to the increaſe of people, and improvement of land in theſe parts, would be the demand for *Britiſh* Goods, to the great encouragement of our

Manufactures, the increaſe of trade and navigation, and of the national revenue.

THE new Colony, and the Bound above propoſed, aſcertaining the limits betwixt it and the other Colonies, could be no injury to them. They would have more land beſides than they could fully ſettle in a great many years. For which reaſon,—propoſing to ſettle that country, by extending the limits of our old Colonies that way, or by two or more new ones at firſt, inſtead of anſwering, would, it is to be feared, entirely defeat the excellent ends propoſed. For it is notour fact, that not only a careleſſneſs in general, but a jealouſy of one another's proſperity prevails among our Colonies. As a proof of this,--- the greateſt dangers lately hanging over all their heads, was for ſeveral years inſufficient to make them enter into any aſſociation, or to unite them in any public meaſure for their common ſafety. Nor is it to be expected, that they would, in this caſe, do any thing jointly or to purpoſe, for the effectual ſecurity of that country, nor build

forts

forts in proper time, if at all, needful for that end.

But a conſiderable body of people ſettled there, in one community, having one Governor, one law, one council, and one common intereſt; gathering additional ſtrength by the yearly acceſſion of ſtrangers, that, for the above reaſons, would flock to it, whether from the other Colonies, or from whatever Proteſtant Countries; would in proper time become ſo powerful, as fully to anſwer all the ſalutary ends already named. Afterwards, when become populous, ſtrong, and its limits extended, it might, as has been done with ſome of our Colonies formerly, be divided into two or more, as convenience or reaſons of ſtate ſhould require.

The objection,——'That in a Colo-'ny ſo remote from the ſea, there would be 'little or no conſumpt of *Britiſh* goods, 'rendered dear by the neceſſary charges of 'land-carriage,'—— is frivolous. For common ſenſe and experience dictate, that the trade of every country muſt be in proportion

portion to the quantity and value of its ſtaple commodities: And that, if the productions of a country find their way out of it, the manufactures of the country to which they go, will certainly find their way into it. We are aſſured by thoſe who are well acquainted with that country, ſuch as the ingenious Dr *Franklyn*, that goods may be conveyed in boats or canoes, to and from the moſt inland parts of it, by great navigable rivers and freſh-water lakes communicating one with another, very ſmall portages here and there excepted. Much more now muſt that be the caſe, when the navigation of the *Miſſiſippi* is free to us, and the whole country, with the rivers and lakes on the eaſt of it, are our own. Such additional charges, therefore, muſt be inconſiderable.

If it ſhall be alledged, as an objection,—'That ſome or all of the places propoſed to 'be ſettled, are the property of the *In-* '*dians*,'——It is anſwered,———Suppoſing the fact, what then? So was once that whole Continent. Nothing is known to hinder

hinder our purchaſing from the natives, as hitherto, whatever lands we have occaſion for, and that at an eaſy rate. But the objection is not fact. For whatever lands the *French* poſſeſſed on the eaſt of the *Miſſiſippi*, except *New Orleans*, is now by treaty, as much our right and property, as any part of that Continent. And beſides the extenſive country on the eaſt of the *Miſſiſippi* from the ſea northwards, they had Forts and ſettlements nigh the *Forks*, where the new Colony is propoſed. Further it may be obſerved, both from the hiſtory and maps of that country, that from the *Illinois* river to the ſea, ſcarce any of the *Indian* tribes have their habitation within a great many miles of the *Miſſiſippi*; which, in this caſe, is a very favourable encouraging circumſtance.

FROM the recommencement of hoſtilities upon our back Settlements by the *Indians*, Some may perhaps object,—'That a num-'ber of our people, though conſiderable, 'when ſettled at a diſtance from the parts 'occupied of our other Colonies, yet might

'be in danger, before they gathered ſufficient 'ſtrength, of being perpetually haraſſed by 'the Natives, whom the *French* would not 'fail to inſtigate.'——The objection is as much againſt *extending* our *old* Colonies as *ſettling* a *new* one; and amounts plainly to this,———That we muſt attempt neither the one nor the other, without the permiſſion and good leave of the *French* and *Indians*: which is abſurd and ridiculous. But if a new Colony where propoſed, is neceſſary at all,———ſo far from being delayed, it ought to be much rather haſtened, on account of the preſent *Indian* inſurrections. This being ſelf-evident, to ſay any thing in ſupport of it, would be altogether idle.

That the *French* Jeſuits and Prieſts are concerned in theſe diſturbances, is fully confirmed by accounts from theſe parts. This hath been their uſual practice, even in times of profound peace. But whether theſe incendiaries are, in this, acting by authority from the *French* nation, we cannot as yet poſitively

poſitively ſay: Though, from the public accounts already noticed, it is more than probable, they have inſtructions, or permiſſion at leaſt, from ſome leading Perſons of that faithleſs Court, which countenanced proceedings of the ſame nature, immediately after the treaty of *Aix-la-chapelle*.

But be this as it will,———Shall *Britain*, whoſe troops carried victory wherever they advanced their Standards in that Country during the late war, and drove the armies of both *French* and Natives before them, be intimidated by any ſuch thing as an *Indian* war, from ſettling and ſecuring theſe acquiſitions that have coſt the Nation ſo much? Ought we not rather, without loſs of time, to ſend a reſpectable body of regular forces, with expreſs orders to the ſeveral Colonies to join them with ſufficient numbers of Provincials, that theſe inſurrections may be quelled by force, if other means ſhall prove ineffectual?

But we are ſorry to hear, from the publick and other accounts, that ſome of our own people are not blameleſs. Some,

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in the frontiers of our Colonies, where generally the moſt worthleſs perſons are to be found, remote from the notice and reſtraint of Government, had, we are told, lately poſſeſſed themſelves of Lands belonging to the natives, without purchaſe or treaty. This encroachment, notwithſtanding the repeated Remonſtrances of the Natives and the Proclamations of the Governour of the adjacent Colony, could not but highly irritate the original proprietors againſt our people; eſpecially, at ſo critical a time. Many of our Colony-traders alſo, intent upon Gain, right or wrong, ſell them ſpirituous Liquors; and after making them drunk, cheat, defraud and over-reach them in bargains. Is it any wonder then, that theſe poor *Indians* when exaſperated to the higheſt degree by ſuch injuſtice and bad uſage, endeavour by what methods they can, to do themſelves juſtice, and maintain their natural rights?

THUS it is that a parcel of Sharpers, the ſcandal and diſgrace of our Colonies, obſerving neither law nor equity, occaſion general

neral miſchief. For, by theſe their ſhameful low practices, they provoke the *Indians*, who, if diſcreetly uſed, would keep treaties as ſtrictly as we do; but when exaſperated by ſuch glaring injuſtice, are of all men the moſt revengeful and cruel.

The *French*, who neglect no means of ſecuring their intereſt and power wherever they have footing, are careful to gain the affection of theſe *Indians:* And, according to their ſuperior dexterity in addreſs and civility of uſage, they are more ſucceſsful than we, in procuring and retaining their friendſhip. They are at the utmoſt pains, by religious and matrimonial ties, and by whatever methods their art and cunning can ſuggeſt, to engage them firmly to their intereſt: Whereby they manage them to their own mind, and find great account in ſo doing.

How highly imprudent and impolitick, therefore, it is, thus to injure and provoke theſe natives, may be known from the melancholy accounts from theſe parts, for ſome months paſt. Theſe unjuſtifiable proceedings

ceedings afford very plauſible arguments to the *French* Jeſuits and Prieſts, who, like Satan, whoſe creatures they are, love to fiſh in muddy waters, and are ever rambling in theſe parts,—to create jealouſies and ſuſpicions; widen breaches however occaſioned; inflame the revengeful ſpirits of theſe cruel ſavages, whom they ſtill abuſe; and in ſhort, to perſuade them, that our deſign is, to expel all the natives, and take poſſeſſion of the whole country: A notion, with which they ſeem to have been ſtrongly impreſſed of late; but by whom, is no myſtery.

But, to get free of a vexatious, fatiguing, inconvenient *Indian* war, however or by whomſoever raiſed, it is to be wiſhed, ſome effectual method were taken to compromiſe the preſent differences by a fair and equitable treaty; to prevent our people, particularly the Colony-traders, from abuſing and injuring them; to deal fairly, and as much as poſſible, maintain a ſtrict inviolable friendſhip with them; to execute the laws impartially againſt thoſe that

that happen to injure them; and, chiefly, to ſearch out, with rewards for diſcovery, and make public examples of, theſe plagues of ſociety, diſturbers of mankind, and conſtant ſource of miſchief to us in theſe parts,—whatever Jeſuits, Monks, Prieſts, *&c.* can be apprehended any where throughout the whole country eaſtward from the *Miſſiſipi* and *Iberville.*

WHAT might be the moſt effectual way of managing theſe *Indians*, ſo as to have laſting peace and good neighbourhood with them in time coming,——is a very material conſideration. Some are of opinion, that, on account of their inſufferable repeated treachery, and the infinite miſchief they have done us for many years paſt; not only *war*, but *extirpation* of ſome of the moſt unruly of theſe tribes, is neceſſary. Others,——that we ought to keep muſkets and powder from them altogether.

BUT both theſe are liable to objections. For, the immenſe extent of the country; the large woods, rivers, lakes, mountains and other incumbrances throughout almoſt the

the whole of it; the *Indian* method of carrying on war, in ſmall parties, by ſtolen marches, unexpected attacks upon our ſparſe defenceleſs Plantations, and ſuddenly retreating thro' woods impaſſable by our people; cannot but render a *war* with them moſt difficult to us, and *extirpation* next to impoſſible. Nor would this method, tho' eaſy and actually practiſed, be found to anſwer the end. For, while any of theſe tribes remained, the out-parts of our Settlements would ſtill be expoſed to their cruelty and fury, and in danger of being perpetually haraſſed. Neither could we, in many years, people the territories of any of theſe Nations that might be thus extirpated. Beſides,——That of *extirpation*, however agreeable and common to the cruel *Spaniards*, is a method by which, it is hoped, the humane generous *Britons* will never chuſe to extend their dominions.

WITHOLDING gun-powder and fire-arms from them, would certainly occaſion heavy complaints, and exaſperate them exceedingly. The *French* too, would not only

only improve ſuch refuſal, and repreſent it as a ſtrong argument, to incenſe the whole tribes againſt us, as keeping from them the neceſſary inſtruments of their game, food, trade, and war; but would find ways and means, while they have any intereſt in that Continent, to furniſh them with theſe implements, as much to their own advantage in trade and otherways, as to our loſs.

BUT tho' theſe, and other ſuch forcible meaſures, may be improper for gaining over people of ſo cruel revengeful tempers, as they are in their preſent Pagan ſtate; yet there are certainly ſome methods, which, if carefully purſued, would be found effectual.

BESIDES juſtice in dealing, and diſcreet fair uſage, we ought, principally, to endeavour *civilizing* them. The moſt effectual way of accompliſhing this, would be, ——uſing all due pains to teach them our language,——and, chiefly, to inſtill into them the principles of the true Religion:

Which we have hitherto neglected, equally to our ſhame and loſs.

THE *Spaniards* make more uſeful ſubjects and friends in *South-America*, and elſewhere, by their miſſionaries than by their ſoldiers; and more faithful too: For, of all obligations, theſe from Religion muſt be the moſt firm and laſting.

ONE reaſon, among others, why the natives ſhew more favour, and are more firmly attached to the *French* than to us, is manifeſtly this: Becauſe many of them, by the indefatigable diligence of their Prieſts, are proſelyted to the Catholic faith.

THE impious freedoms, indeed, groſs abſurties and blaſphemous proſtitution of the moſt ſacred truths, whereby the *French* endeavour to engage them to their intereſt, and work up their indignation againſt us, are ſhocking, and altogether unworthy the Chriſtian name. Beſides their common maxim, of keeping no faith or promiſes made to thoſe differing from them in religion, they are at great pains to make theſe Natives believe the moſt abſurd ſtories and falſehoods,

falſehoods, the very naming of which would be diſagreeable to Chriſtian ears: Such as, —that our Saviour was a Frenchman, and the Engliſh thoſe that crucified him, *&c.* By theſe, and other ſcandalous abuſes, which ſcarcely any other Nation on earth would dare to attempt, inſtead of teaching them Divine Truth, they debauch and deprave them; make them ſtill more faithleſs, treacherous and cruel; extinguiſh any notions of morality that the light of Nature furniſhes; and in ſhort render them ſeven-fold more the children of the Devil than before.

But ſtill, this makes the duty more neceſſary, of endeavouring to free theſe our poor abuſed fellow-creatures and neighbours from the fatal impoſitions of theſe arch-deceivers, who, from baſe ſelfiſh views, thus defy the Arm of Omnipotence, proſtitute Religion, make no ſcruple to pervert and miſlead by the groſſeſt lies upon all occaſions, and ruin the ſouls of many thouſands.

Not

Not to mention the Honour of our Nation, King, Church and Government, and other motives yet more noble; this, even from political conſiderations, claims our ſincere regard. The national advantages that would acrue to us from thence, cannot be told. By the light of the Goſpel planted among theſe poor Heathens, would the ferocity of their tempers be removed; their Lives and Manners poliſhed; and the Souls of many ſaved. Inſtead of Jealouſies, Hatred, Diffidence, Inſurrections, and Hoſtilities, they would love and reverence us as their ſpiritual Deliverers, and Guides: would be fond to imitate us in polite faſhions and civilized manners: would uſe apparel; build and live in towns and villages; cultivate lands; and, thro' time, ſtudy Arts and Sciences. Finally, inſtead of being idle wanderers, they would make a great addition of very uſeful Subjects to the *Britiſh* Empire.

Then might we expect, with much more reaſon than in the preſent ſituation, peaceable neighbourhood with them: Juſtice

ſtice in dealings; a cloſe laſting friendſhip; mutual affection and confidence; and their chearful ready aſſiſtance when wanted.

The moſt effectual way of obtaining and ſecuring theſe advantages by them, is, ——to inſtruct them carefully in the Knowledge of the true God; the immortality of the Soul; a future State of rewards and puniſhments; the nature, uſefulneſs and neceſſity of Truth, Juſtice, Uprightneſs and other moral Virtues, with the turpitude and danger of their contrary Vices, *&c.*

This would be the moſt glorious Conqueſt we ever made in *America*; and a ſuitable return of gratitude to our God, who of late gave us ſo many Victories there, and ſuch large Dominions.

In caſe of attempting this worthy Deſign (and would to God it were attempted) we never had ſuch promiſing views of Succeſs as now. For, ſuppoſing the preſent differences with the Natives accommodated, and peace reſtored, 'tis hoped we

ſhall take care not to be any more peſtered with the *French* Jeſuites, *&c.* in theſe parts.——Again, how favourable for ſuch a deſign is it, that a Prince of ſuch eminent Goodneſs, and poſſeſſed of all the amiable Virtues, now fills the *Britiſh* Throne! A Prince,——who would rejoice to be the Inſtrument of ſending the Light of GOD's Word to ſo many thouſands of the human ſpecies, ſunk in the woeful darkneſs of Heatheniſh Ignorance, or abuſed by nominal Chriſtians, but falſely ſo called: A Prince,——whoſe principal aim is, the Glory of GOD whom he ſerves, and the good of Mankind whom he loves: A Prince,——againſt whom the wanton oppoſition of ſelfiſh deſigning Men, muſt be as wicked and odious, as his diſintereſted truly patriotick Views and endeavours for the welfare and happineſs of all his Subjects, are remarkable: A Prince, as well qualified as diſpoſed to bring us to the Æra of the higheſt Glory and Felicity that *Britain* ever enjoyed; if, turning precious Liberty into Licentiouſneſs, and abuſing

abuſing the greateſt Mercies, and moſt diſtinguiſhed privileges that any Nation on earth is favoured with,——we do not, peeviſhly, and with unparalleled perverſity, provoke Heaven to withdraw the numerous Bleſſings now in our offer.

To conclude:—Seeing the late war, which was chearfully gone into by the whole Nation; proſecuted by Meaſures as wiſely concerted as vigorouſly executed; maintained by a ſteady firmneſs, and at vaſt expence;——is at length happily terminated by a peace, the moſt advantageous to us of any ever made betwixt the two Nations, and which, if but as carefully improved, as its improvement is eaſy, may render *Britain* more glorious, powerful and wealthy, than in any former period: It is hoped, that thoſe in power, particularly the Lords of Trade and Plantations, will join our moſt excellent, amiable, virtuous, and truly worthy Sovereign, and uſe all proper methods, timeouſly and effectually to accompliſh a matter of ſuch importance and general concern: that the

now

now extenſive *Britiſh* Dominions, by the bleſſing of the Moſt High, who has done ſuch great and marvellous things for us, may henceforth flouriſh and proſper, under the mild, auſpicious and happy Reign of His Majeſty and of his Royal Deſcendents, as the Guardians of Liberty, and Defenders of the true Religion in theſe our Realms, till earthly Kingdoms and Dominions ſhall be no more.

FINIS.